Want Ads in The Times-Dispatch Bring Results.

THE TIMES FOUNDED 1886. THE DISPATCH FOUNDED 1856

RICHMOND, VA., FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 1914.

WEATHER TO-DAY-UNSETTLED

PRICE TWO CENTS.

STILL IS MATTER OF CONJECTURE

Reports From Gomez Palacio and Torreon Conflicting.

BOTH CLAIM TO HAVE ADVANTAGE

Observers of Situation at El Paso Not Impressed by Either Official Utterance - Renewed Interest in Outcome Is Manifested at Washington.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
San Antonio, Texan, March 26.—Gentral Pancho Villa, field marshal of the Jonetiutionalists, has admitted the defeat of his once conquering army at some Palacio. In a message to Prosisional Governor Chao, of Chihuahua, who is in Juarez to meet General Caranza, Villa said that because of the errific and deadly fire of the Federals, se and his army had been forced to etreat to Noe, a station about twenty ellometers north of Torreon. In all its career this is the first time General Alla even has intimated defeat. The text of this message was transmitted to General Bliss, who is companding the Southern Department of he United States Army, by General cott, in command at Fort Bliss. By United States army officers who have been watching the situation and ollowing the fortunes of the contending armies, Villa's telegram is looked upon as a frank admission of defeat. That the Mexican government plans of make the defeat of the Constitutionalists more complete is made aparent in the practical stripping of the attillo garrison to-day, which was ent north on a forced march, and to lose in on the rear of Villa's army. In his column there are approximately 600 men.

Conflicting Reports.

Il Paso, Tex., March 26.—Conflicting orts to-day left the situation at mez Palacio and Torreon a matter conjecture. General Villa telestyhed to Manuel Chao at Juarez that had been in possession of Gomez lacio since morning, and predicted it the rebels would have Torreon not er than Saturday. On the other nd, Miguel Diebold, of Huerta's conar service, exhibited telegrams dering the rebels had been repulsed all points. rebels thought they had taken rebels thought they had taken as a result of which they lost of dead and wounded and see priss. The Federal retreat, he said, a feint to draw the rebels over dynamite mines, which, he said, exploded under the invaders, with esuit mentioned.

Federals Drives Back.
heral Villa's telegram, as given heral Villa's telegram, as given

Observers of the situation here say at they have been misled so often in the last ten days by so-called official ports of both sides that neither offi-

reports of both sides that heither offi-cial utterance was impressive. More importance, it was said, attached to the renewed embargo which has pre-vented newspaper correspondents at the front from sending impartial stories of events under their observa-

lowing the repulse of General Francisco Willa and his rebel army, fighting has been resumed near Torreon at Noe, a few miles north of Gomez Palacio.

This was the substance of a brief dispatch to Federal headquarters in Piedras Negras late to-day, said to have come direct from the battlefield. It was explained related to events of last night, said:

"Our arms victorious at Gomez Palacio.

More than 2.000 killed, wounded and prisoners. Cavalry pursuing."

Federal officials at Piedras Negras interpreted the last message of General Maas as meaning that Villa had been driven from Gomez Palacio toward the north, but whether the engagement at Noe was a final stand by the rebels in retreat or a renewal of the Torreon attack, no one could say.

The Federal dispatches reached Piedras Negras over the government wire into Monterey. No details were obtainable, as there is no commercial communication to that point.

General Mans, military Governor of the northern zone of Mexico, was reported in a Mexico City dispatch to have gone from Montercy with 700 men in armored automobiles to reinforce Velasco at Torreon.

Claims of Rebels.

Claims of Rebels.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Washington, March 26.—The Constitutionalist agency here to-night gave out the following telegram from Rafael Muzquiz, Constitutionalist agent at El Paso:
"Gomez Palacio and Lerdo are in our lands, and Torreon is completely surrounded. We are expecting victory at

Index, and Torreon is completely surrounded. We are expecting victory at any hour."

Great Interest in Washington.

Washington, March 26.—Not since the successful assault on Olinaga, has there been so much interest manifested here in the details of the Mexican campaign as in the present attempt of the rebel general, Villa, to capture the important Federal base at Torreon. The fighting at Olinaga was under the direct observation of Americans just across the line, but virtually nothing is known here of what is going on at Torreon. The State begartnent has its representative at the front in the person of Vice-Consul Carothers, but so far it has heard nothing from the vice-consul, except a brief message last night that the results had not been determined.

Annapolis, Md., March 26.—Only two stories are to be made in foreign ports during the annual summer practice cruise of the midshipmen from the United States Naval Academy, although the voyage will cover over 10.500 miles. This was the announcement made to day. Leaving Annapolis June 7, the summer cruise will summer practice cruise of the midshipmen from the United States Naval Academy, although the voyage will cover over 10.500 miles. This was the announcement made to day. Leaving Annapolis June 7, the summer cruise of the midshipmen on Summer Cruise Will Stop Only it values and Gravesend.

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vice-consul, except a brief of the point of that the results had not been determined.

Army officers here believe that VII-la's situation is critical. They point to proceed on his march to the City of Mexico, leaving a strong Federal base on his line of communications, while on the other hand, he cannot remain indefinitely in his present position outside of Torreon for lack of means to keep his army in food, water and ammunition. The necessity of gathering most of his troops at the front has thinned the Constitutionalist leader's lines of communication with his base at Chilhuahua, and if these should be cut

(Continued On Second Page.)

The time until August 28 with the target practice.

WILL ADJOURN ON AUGUST 20

Famous Capitol Prophet Predicts Date for End of Congress.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Washington, March 26.—Congress will adjourn on August 20, according to "Colonel" Jim Edwards, the famous Capitol prophet. His previous predictions on adjournments have worked out about 75 per cent right. He halls from Missouri, is a doorkeeper in the Senate, and has been a political prognosticator for twenty years.

WHOLE NUMBER, 19,667.

ANNA HELD ASKS \$250,000

Wants Damages from Kinemacolor Company for Displaying Her. [Special to The Times-Displatch.] New York, March 26.—That she permitted the Kinemacolor Company of America to take pictures of her for her own personal use and benefit, and without any thought that they would be displayed in motion-picture houses throughout the country, is alieged in an affidavit filed by Miss Anna Held in the Supreme Court to-day. Miss Held demanded \$250,000 from the defendant in her complaint, along with an injunction restraining the defendant from exhibiting the pictures complained of pending the trial.

The matter was set down for argument before Justico Weeks in the Supreme Court to-day as to a temporary injunction, but the motion was withdrawn by consent of counsel in open court.

The plaintiff asserts that she is an

drawn by consent of counsel in open-court.

The plaintiff asserts that she is an artist of high standing and commands the highest salary of any in her class. To have her pictures shown in motion-picture houses, she says, interferes with her drawing ability as an artist in the

Harry N. Steinfeld is Miss Held's at orney.

INSURANCE AS COMMERCE

Heads of Many Companies Pavor Constitutional Amendment.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

New York, March 26.—Darwin P.

Kingsley, president of the New York
Life Insurance Company, declared today an overwhelming majority of 200
letters received by him from the heads
of as many insurance companies in this
country, are in favor of the insurance
business being declared commerce.

The letters received by Mr. Kingsley were answers to a letter he recently sent out asking if the heads of the
260 institutions would support a movement looking toward the adoption of a
constitutional amendment specifically
declaring insurance done outside of
a company's own State to be commerce.

"Of these 300 replies," said Mr.

Kingsley, "eighteen express opposition. Of the remainder a few are noncommittal, and some, while favoring
Federal control, cite the present unhappy conditions of the railroads, and
raise the question as to what the
status of insurance would be if such
an amendment were adopted. An
overwhelming majority of the replies
favor the amendment unqualifiedly."

AMPLE FUNDS FOR REUNION

Confederate Pestivities at Jacksonville
Will Be on Elaborate Seale.
Jacksonville, Fla., March 26.—The
finance committee of the Confederate
fleunion Organization announces today that ample funds to carry out the
reunion plans and festivities on an
elaborate scale have been obtained.
Twenty-three thousand dollars have
been naid in, with \$7,000 more pledged
and fully \$15,000 in sight. It looks
as if more than \$50,000 will be raised,
if that amount is needed, according to
Chairman Chase, of the campaign soliciting committee. To-day was "Button Day," and the women sold them on
the streets at \$1 each, and mot with
great success. Adjutant-General Forrest declares the reunion will be one
of the most successful ever held.
A telegram from Congressman
L'Engle to-day announces that Secretary of the Navy Daniels will send the
President's yacht Mayflower and one or
more battleships or cruisers here during the Confederate reunion in May
"provided the Mexican situation at that
time will permit."

TAFT GIVES DIET RULES

Advises 235-Pound Mayor of Cambridge How He Lost Severty Pounds. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Cambridge, March 26.—Former Pres-ident Taft has lost seventy pounds since

Sugar.

Take good modern exercise, like playing golf or walking nve miles a day.

At the end of Taft's reply is this descript; I don't smoke or drink intexicating

DECREASE IN EARNINGS

vented newspaper correspondents at the front from sending impartial storles of events under their observation.

Report from Federals.

Eagle Pass, Texas, March 26.—Following the repulse of General Francisco Villa and his rebel arms, fighting has been resumed near Torreon at Noc, a few miles north of Gomez Palaclo.

This was the substance of a brief dispatch to Federal headquarters in Piedras Negras late to-day, said to have come direct from the battlefield. It was eart by General Joaquin Maas.

No details were given. A message received carlier in the afternoon, which it was explained related to events of last night, said:

"Our arms victorious at Gomez P.

Statement fer February and for Past Eight Months by Southern Pacific. San Francisco, Cal. March 26.—For the eight months ending February 28, 1914, the Southern Pacific Company showed a decrease in gross revenue of \$3.291,127, and a decrease in the revenue in excess of operating expenses of \$45.06,748.

During the same period there was an erceived carlier in the afternoon, which is the first operation of the company of the eight months by Southern Pacific. San Francisco, Cal. March 26.—For the eight months ending February 28, 1914, the Southern Pacific Company showed a decrease in gross revenue of \$3.291,127, and a decrease in the revenue in excess of \$4.506,748.

During the same period there was an erceived carlier in the afternoon, which the decrease in taxes of \$1.235,629.

For February 1914, as against the crease in gross revenue was \$602,819.

For February 1914, the Southern Pacific. San Francisco, Cal. March 26.—For the eight months ending February 28, 1914, the Southern Pacific. San Francisco, Cal. March 26.—For the eight months ending February 28, 1914, the Southern Pacific. San Francisco, Cal. March 26.—For the eight months ending February 28, 1914, the Southern Pacific. San Francisco, Cal. March 26.—For the eight months ending February 28, 1914, the Southern Pacific. San Francisco, Cal. March 26.—For the eight months ending February 28, 1914, the Sou

and the report that he had been seri-cusly ill:

"Alfred Farlow, after twenty-six years of active service in connection with Christian Science organizations, half of which time he was manager of the committee on publication, has retired from that position of his own accord, and for the future will be ac-

tive in other lines of Christian Science work.
"He is now in good health, and has not been in the serious condition of ill health reported."

SALARY RAISES GRANTED GAS MEN **CANNOT BE PAID**

Increases to Thirty-Eight Employes.

RULING IS MADE BY CITY ATTORNEY

istrative Board, Under Recent Legislative Act, Is Without Power to Raise Employes' Pay During Current Fiscal Year.

Salary increases granted to thirty-eight employes of the Gas Depart-ment by an ordinance approved March 13 are held to be without effect un-

Ceneral Assembly Acts.

Trior to the approval of the measby the Mayor, however, the GenI Assembly passed the charter
anges bill introduced by the Richand delegation. The bill carried an
ergency clause, putting it into effect
m its passage. It was approved by
vernor Stuart on February 28, and
ame at once effective. The act conagain resign their commissions, and, as
one of them said. This time in ear-

as follows:

"The City Council shall fix the pay of all officers appointed by them, and the Administrative Board shall fix the pay of all officers (whom they are now or may be hierariter authorized to appoint) subject, however, to the approval of the Council, and the wages of all employes of the city in departments under their control shall be fixed by the Administrative Board, and such wages may, from time to time, he increased or diminished by said board, any increase not to take effect, however, until the expiration of the fixed year during which such increase is made."

Barred by Charter Change. Harred by Charter Change.
The fact that the charter change beame effective before the ordinance interaction of the salaries was approved by he Mayor, the City Attorney holds, ffectually bars the raises because uch increases would be in direct violation of the last provision of the section just quoted, which prohibits them for taking effect until the expiration of the fiscal year during which they are made. of the useal year during which they are made.

The general appropriation ordinance, approved by the Mayor on February 12, contained the following clause:

"It is further provided that, in view of the general increases of salaries and wages during the past year, no salaries or wages shall be increased, to become effective during the fiscal year, other than such as may now be pending in the City Council."

This clause was inserted to provide a check on further increases this year in the event that the charter change bill should fail to bass. It would have permitted the Gas Department increases which are now barred by the legislative act, under the provision exempting from the inhibition increases pending at the time of the passage of the appropriation ordinance.

Other Increases Affected.

The City Attorney's runing bars also from going into effect measure.

other Increases Affected.

The City Attorney's ruing bars also from going into effect measures that are now pending in the Council which provide salary increases for the Second Assistant City Engineer, the deputy clerk of Hustings Court, Part II., the bailiff of the Civil Justice's Court, the several keepers of the city parks, and the probation officer of the Juvenile Court. All of these increases were pending at the time the budget was approved, and would have been eligible but for the effect of the charter change act.

As the matter now stands, unless an attempt is made to amul the City Attorney's construction of the law by mandamus, the Council and Administrative Board are without power to grant the increases enumerated until next year. It is extremely until next year, it is extremely until next year, it is extremely inhibitely that any such course will be taken, and tife matter is already regarded as practically closed.

The City Attorney holds in his opinion that both the Council and board have the power to increase the salaries of officers under their direction at any time during the year. The prohibition, he holds, applies only to the wages of employes. In this connection Mr. Pollard lays down clearly his definition of the terms "employe" and "officer"—a distinction which was the cause of considerable trouble last year when an attempt was made by the Administrative Board to Increase the salary of Superintendent Knowles, of the Gas Works.

the Administrative Board to increase the Salary of Superintendent Knowles, of the Gas Works.

City Attorney's Opinion.

Mr. Pollard's opinion, rendered to City Auditor Crenshaw, follows:

Mr. George S. Crenshaw.

Mr. George S. Crenshaw.

Auditor,
Richmond, Va.

Dear Sir.—I am in receipt of your favor of the 17th inst. relative to the construction of the recent charter amendments, which you advise me were approved, and consequently pecame ef-(Continued On Second Page.)

STRONG PRESSURE ON FIELD MARSHAL TO KEEP HIS POST

Change in Charter Bars Chief of Staff and Adjutant-General Both Resign.

> MAY BE INDUCED TORECONSIDER

Tells City Auditor That Admin- Government Still Faces Situation of Extreme Difficulty, and Asquith Postpones Promised Statement to Parliament. Seely to Change Portfolios With Harcourt.

> rument still is facing a situation of extreme difficulty is proved by the fact that Fremier Asquith was not in a position to-night to make his promised statement in Parliament, and it con-sequently was postponed until to-

Assembly clearly bars their admittance.

The opinion was transmitted to City Auditor Crenshaw at his request for a ruling to clear up donlys which had arisen as to the legality of the ordinance. The measure increased the salaries of three foremen of the pipelaying force to \$1 a day; thirty-three service men to \$2.75 a day, and the storekeeper and pressure-room hand to \$4 a day.

The bar caused a decided strincity Hall circler, the development City Hall circler, the development being regarded as extremely unfortunate. Practically all of the city departments have enjoyed general increases this year. Salary raises have been granted also to other employs of the Gas Department for whom provision was made earlier in the year. Various rumors were affoat yesterday attaching the biame for the failure of the gas employes' increases to different branches of the city government.

Introduced in September.

The ordinance was introduced in the Common Council by Connellman Vonderleir on September 2, 1933. As originally drawn it provided increases only for the foremen and service men. It was referred simultaneously to the Administrative Board to the Common Council with the recommendation that it be passed after being amended to include increases for the storekeeper and pressure-room hand.

The Common Council accepted the anneadment, and by a vote of 18 to 2, passed the ordinance on March 18 to 2, passed the ordinance on March 2, 850, on March 10, 11 and 10 a

Brigadier-General Gough, commander of the Third Cavalry Brigade, said to-day; "If Premier Asquith withdraws the guards, he will have to throw over the army council, and the government will be faced practically with disruption of the army."

Many Liberals think Premier Asquith should have accepted the resignation of Colonel Seely.

Many Liberals think Premier Asquith should have accepted the resignation of Colonel Seely.

Action Not Taken.

At midnight Field Marshal French authorized the statement that his resignation neither had been accepted nor withdrawn. Nothing is likely to be known officially until Fremier Asquith makes his statement in the House of Commons to-morrow, when it probably will be found that the removal of Colonel Seely from the War Office is the price paid for the withdrawal of the resignations of Generals French and Ewart, and that the arrangement of this was the reason for the postponement of the Premier's statement.

According to the best information, the War Office conference to-day of all the principal commanding generals of the army was called to enable Generals French and Ewart to explain that their resignation was a personal matter, arising solely from the fact that they signed the Gough memorandum which the government since had repudiated, and they urged that all the other officers should remain at their posts. Then followed interviews with the ministers and an audience with the King, with a view to inducing them to reconsider their act. But both General French and General Ewart remained firm in their decision that it would be impossible for them to retain their nosts while Colonel Seely remained Secretary for War. They were willing, however, to withdraw their resignations if Colonel Seely was removed.

Must Abandon Seely.

Faced by this ultimatum and the knowledge that there was a strong feeling against Colonel Seely among radicals, the Prime Minister seems to have arrived at the conclusion that he must abandon Colonel Seely again has resigned, and that his resignation has been talk of appointing John Burns, president of the local government board, as Secretary of War, and a report also has been current of an exchange of portfolios between Lewis Illercourt and Colonel Seely again has resigned, and that his resignation has been accepted; that Lewis Harourt has been selected to replace him, and that Lord Emmett,

forefront of the battle. Determined to Resign.

Dublin, March 26.—A majority of the cavalry officers at Curragh adhere to their determination to resign rather than obey orders and serve against Ulster. They are indignant at what they term the bad faith displayed by the government in repudiating the agreement made with Brigadier-General Gough, commander of the Third Cavalry Brigade.

Steamer Reported Safe.

Steamer Reported Safe.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
San Francisco, March 25.—The Inter-Island steamer Mauri, which was reported destroyed early to-day in an explosion of dynamite, this afternoon reported that she was safe. The report came here by wireless.

Resigns Commission in British Army



DECREE IN FAVOR OF GOVERNMENT

DECISION SETS PRECEDENT

Will Govern Future Findings in Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

DECISION SETS PRECEDENT

Will Govern Future Findings in Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

States.

MATTER IS NOT PERSONAL

Members Urged to Vote Particular

Expenditure of the control of the c

VITAL TO REPEAL

EXEMPTION CLAUSE

HEATED ARGUMENT IN HOUSE ON RULE TO LIMIT DEBATE

Begins Hardest Fight Yet Undertaken by Wilson.

CLARK VIGOROUS IN OPPOSITION

Speaker Encourages Opponents of Repeal Measure-Both Sides Display Great Activity in Preparing for Reopening of Struggle To-Day, When Vote Will Be Taken.

Washington, March 26.—The greatest legislative battle yet undertaken by President Wilson's administration was begun to-day with the presentation of a special rule in the House to limit debate and prohibit amendment on the administration's proposal to repeal the provision of the Panama Canal act allowing free passage to American ships. For two hours the rule alternately was defended and attacked in heated debate in the House. When adjournment came, with an hour of debate on the rule left for to-morrow, Speaker Champ Clark, who before had not announced his position on the repeal policy, issued a statement vigorously opposing the rule.

"Surely there is nothing sacred about this repeal bill, and there is no reason for this mad rush," said the Speaker's statement. "I will not be a party to ramming such a rule down the throats of members."

Impressed with the importance of a measure which President Wilson has characterized as necessary to the conduct of his administration's foreign policy, an extraordinary attendance of members was on the floor when the rule was presented. Galleries and floor were crowded; throngs of spectators filled the seats in the galleries, occupied the stairways and overflowed into the corridors. The spectators came when the House met at 11 o'clock today and waited hour after hour, as routine business delayed the tolls bill and the nervous tension on the floor grew more and more tense.

Sims Presents Rule.